Series I Correspondence, 1932-1973

Box 6, Folder 8

January 10, 1952 - April 25, 1952

Box 6 Incoming, 1952

Dear Bates, Nimitz, 2 February 1952 Comment on Bates' work

Dear Rafe, Captain Ralph Parker, 16 March 1952 General interest to historians

Dear Rafe, H.Q. Allied Forces Southern Europe, Henry (H.E. Eccles), 8 April 1952. Comments on problem of an allied staff.

Dear Rafe, Paulus Powell, 24 May 1952
Important comment on action at Leyte and command structure

Pavelle Color Incorporated PHOTOGRAPHIC LABORATORIES

January 10th, 1952

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, U. S. N. Naval War college Newport, R. I.

Dear Admiral Bates;

Your pictures for Christmas, were truly pledged
And late delivered, as was alleged
But orders were in from all parts of the nation
The odor you speak of is perspiration.

The lateness of your work, we do deplore
And like the raven, say, "Nevermore"
Bear with us this time, please be so kind
To err is human, to forgive divine.

Pavelle Color, Inc.

Al Golub, Manager Industrial Service

Order shipped 1/7/52

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WASHINGTON

January 18, 1952

Dear Rafe:

Thank you for your note of 15 January. It was kind of you to write. I am looking forward to duty in the Boston area, the only feature about it which I do not fully approve is that I must surrender one of my stars to undertake this job. I shall be the boss and there is great satisfaction in that. Whatever confusion that is created will be my own, and I think that I am probably more inclined to be more tolerant of confusion that I generate myself than that generated by others. I am sure you will understand the foregoing.

Commander Leger called me a few days since about Norman's case. He was in the throes of preparing a letter to Norman stating the many details in connection with the appeal. I might have misled you — and I sincerely hope I didn't — because I gathered that both you and Norman think I have something to do with the case. That is not correct as the Marines have their own Physical Appeal Board.

Once we get settled in Boston, I am hopeful that you will contrive to dash up from time to time to see us. You must know by now that Estelle and I are both very fond of you and are always glad when you show up.

With all good wishes for the New Year, I am

Sincerely,

John L. McCrea

Vice Admiral, U. S. N.

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, USN (Ret) Naval War College

Newport, Rhode Island

P.S. Our daughter Meredith and 2 children (Mrs. Richard M. Niles, wife of Commander Richard M. Niles, USS HAZELWOOD) are now in the Newport area. Their address is: Box 362 D, West Main Road, Route 2, Newport, Rhode Island. I am merely telling you this so that if you see an attractive 118 1b blonde in the streets of Newport, it might be that she is McCrea's daughter.



COMMANDER FIRST FLEET

San Diego, California 18 January 1952

Dear Rafe:

Just received your letter of January 15th, and was very glad to hear from you. As you have estimated, I am eventually going to relieve Badger on the UN.

Of course, all of us, do not like to leave sea duty and operational command and go ashore, but, of course, such is bound to happen in the career of any naval officer. I agree with your broad comment on high command and do not believe that the CNO feels that I am necessarily on the shelf for such purposes, if anything really hot blows up.

I appreciate your well wishes and will hope to see you sometime in the near future. I expect to leave here in early April and will probably get to see you either in Newport, or possibly, you will visit us in New York.

With best personal regards,

Sincerely,

STRUBLE.

Rear Admiral R.W. Bates, USN (Ret) Naval War College Newport, R.I.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WASHINGTON

Dew Rofe: -You rascal! g course. tuen you wouldn't put me in an embarranny spot _ The next time) see you I shall turn you around and plant a surft boot on you. Boston taking a quick look at the new domain. It was an interesting and instructive day. Our regards to both you and Dick -John

1/24/52

ADMIRAL H. KENT HEWITT, U. S. NAVY, RET.
FORETOP
ORWELL, VERMONT

Jan. 28, 1952.

Dear Bates:-

Thank you very much for your nice letter of the 24th. I would be delighted to come in and have a look at your work on the Battle for Leyte Gulf. I know that it will be very interesting. When I was in Hawaii for awhile in May or June 1945, I remember reading my friend Ralph Parker's analysis which he had prepared, from sources then available, for Admiral Nimitz.

According to present plans, we will not be going down to Newport until after March 4, which is our Town Meeting day. That is something I always hate to miss, not only so that Mrs. Hewitt and I can get in our votes and take our part in town affairs, but because they are interesting. When we do come, I expect that we will be in Newport for at least a month. Don't know just where we will stay yet, but it will not be with the Nortons, because it would crowd them too much.

We just saw our other son-in-law and daughter off to Naples on a MSTS transport. Taylor is going to Carney's staff. Their first stop was to be Casa Blanca, which interested young Floride.

With best regards, and many thanks for your thought of me,

Kent Hervill

Sincerely yours.



NAUGATUCK, CONNECTICUT

MANAGER R. I. Coleman

January 29, 1952

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates Naval War College Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

Mark Sperry has been in touch with you concerning your speaking at our next Connecticut Chapter, Naval Academy Alumni Association dinner meeting. Unfortunately, Mark is away for a week or so and I have just had word this morning that we will be able to use the Officers' Club at the New London Sub Base for our next meeting which is scheduled for Thursday Night, February 28th.

Will you let me know if this date is satisfactory to you and also will you advise me what the title of your speech will be so that we may include it in our publicity notices to our members.

I suggest that you write me in care of the Conn. Light & Power Co., Greenwich, Conn., P. O. Box 192.

Very truly yours,

R. I. COLEMAN, '25 Comdr, U. S. N. R. President, Connecticut Chapter U. S. N. A. A. A.

RIC:mmb

FLEET ADMIRAL CHESTER W. NIMITZ, U. S. NAVY 728 SANTA BARBARA ROAD BERKELEY 7, CALIFORNIA

Z FED 1952

Dear Boles: Thanks very much for your little of Jon 8 which was addressed to me at Tressure Frankin care of Course beclera dea Tractier where it was afferently held for three weeks and ale reached me at abore addres yesteday. The all account for my afforest thoughters neglect , I do have the theo book, Even dea, medwayand Savo Joland - and I ded at the time they arrend, examine them. I hope to see the Movinghas you describe - and I assume that eventually pack Destrict Could will have a capy of the felin in his film library, am 2 nght? 2 Congradulate ymm m the five job ymore domp - and I wish for you - and the war Cover a loop + continued percent of Beloborating. With best wishes and warment Dincerely-

CHIEF OF STAFF SUBMARINE FORCE UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET 3 March 1952 Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, USN (Ret) US Naval War College Newport, Rhode Island Dear Admiral Bates: Comments on your talk were fine among those of us "die-hards" who lingered longer. This included both the active and retired officers. You certainly got the boys started on some stimulating discussions. We too were sorry that the ground rules prevented at least a short extension for questions. You voiced a point about which I feel very strongly. That of getting a healthy cross-section of the services in each class at the War College. Admiral Murray has pushed this concept in Washington and Norfolk. More explicitly, he has tried to insure that each class has some of our most promising submariners in each of the courses. While this is primarily for their benefit (and that of the Submarine Forces) we feel that their student discussions, questions and papers will "do no harm" to their fellow students. While all returns are not yet in, I feel that Admiral Murray's endeavors are bearing fruit for the next class. method of selecting students for the major War College now as you know takes it pretty well out of our hands, inasmuch as the request from the individual appears to be a minor consideration. The board always has a good crop of submarine applicants for the Naval War College. And, as I say, this year they seem to be doing well for us. The Admiral was quite pleased to hear of your interest in the cause of good cross sections. He again expressed regret at having to miss your interesting talk. I hope we can have more of it. Sincerely

Law Offices of Donovan Leisure Newton Lumbard & Irvine Two Wall Street WILLIAM J. DONOVAN GEORGE S. LEISURE CARL ELBRIDGE NEWTON J. EDWARD LUMBARD, JR. RALSTONE R. IRVINE New York 5, N.Y. RALSTONE R. IRVINE
THOMAS J. Mc FADDEN
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JAMES R. WITHROW, JR.
MALCOLM FOOSHEE
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JAMES V. HAYES
ROY W. McDONALD
RICHARD P. HEPPNER
THEODORE S. HOPE, JR.
WALTER R. MANSFIELD
GEORGE A. WOOD WASHINGTON OFFICE CAFRITZ BUILDING 1625 EYE STREET, N.W. WASHINGTON 6, D.C. CABLE ADDRESS: DONLARD, NEW YORK March 7th, 1952 Admiral Rafe W. Bates, Naval War College, Newport, R. I. My dear Rafe: I am returning to you under separate cover the copy of "Battle Studies" by Colonel Ardant du Picq which you were kind enough to let me take some months ago. I found it very interesting and helpful in various speeches which I have made. This book should have been sent back to you some time ago, and I hope the delay has not inconvenienced you or your library. Thank you very much for your thoughtfulness. Sincerely yours, Bul

captain ralph c. parker, U.S.N., retired
7130 Bradley Boulevard
BETHESDA, MD. March 16,1952

Dear Rafe:-

While engaged in scrapping old files in an attempt to simplify life to a scale more commensurate with my increasing age and decrepitude, I found evidence that I had not been in communication with you for some three years. That sometimes does happen when I neglect to answer peoples' letters! Anyhow my scouts tell me that you are still alive and going strong, and that you were wearing the two stars to which so well entitled much earlier.

Anyhow, how the hell are you? Working hard? Thru with "orld War II and getting set for World War III? Proving that Rear Admiral McGoofus pulled every possible boner in his Battle of Boola GaBoola, and was saved from worse defeat only by the superior dumbness of his opponent, Rear Admiral Itchi Scratchi? Lemme hear from you.

A couple of months ago who should ring up but a friend of yours, one Raymond Spruance, here for an interview with Harry Truman and the Sec. of State, letce He wanted the Parkers and the Carl Moores to lunch with him, and talk over the proposed job in the Philippines. We told him unamaniously that he would make a bum Ambassador, being too honest and straight-thinking, as well as straight shooting, but that his wife wouldmake a top-notch Ambassadoress and win friends among the Filipinos by her tact and charm faster than he could irk them by telling their Politicos the unpleasant truth about themselves!

Of me there islittle to relate. They very wisely pried me loose from the active duty pay roll on Oct.1, 1949 (after 46 years active service). I have been nothing but a loafer and a bum ever since; and seem to have less time to myself than ever. Whileon active duty I could at least put my feet on the desk and take it easy.

My son, Comdr. Farker, Med. Corps, did a year over in Korea and got back without being nicked, tho with a low opinion of this method of making war. He was at Salerno and the south of France and Omaha Beach, where sombody got somewhere.

I don't see much of any Navy people nowdays, except at the Alumni lunches; and the boys there are mainly old dopes like myself, waiting for a one-way trip over to Arlington. I also do a little work with the Naval Historical Foundation, and the Truxton-Decatur Museu m.



Here'shoping that all is well with you.

As ever

Dear Admiral,

From what I gather from Ted Breed, you have already gone to the trouble of filling out and returning a form, that the ONOP in New York sent you, concerning me and my attempt to obtain an appointment in the U.S Naval Reserve. I certainly do appreciate this and thank you ever-so-much, and hoping not to impose on your generosity, I would like to ask you to do me another favor. In amongst the million-and-one forms that we have to fill out, there is a request that we:

"Ask three reputable citizens who have known you for at least 2 years to write letters recommen ing you for appointment in the U.S. Naval Reserve".

If you are not too busy, I certainly would be honored and most grateful if you would do this for me.

Sorry not to have seen you again last summer, thought I might get another glimpse of you sometime in the Yale Bowl at one of the games during the Fall. Wish you and your guest could have stayed around New Haven after that one game and been my guests at some of the post-game festivities. Perhaps we'll hit the Cape at the same time. This summer.

Again thank you for everything.

Sincerely,



19 March 1952 Major Norman C. Bates, USMC, (Ret.) 2118 San Antonio Ave., Alameda, California. Dear Sir: I have received your letter of March 10 with enclosures. It has also come to my attention that the Physical Disability Appeal Board has received a carton of information from you relating to your case. Your records are being assembled and as yet have not been received by the board. As soon as they are received they will be made available to me. Until such time as I have reviewed your records I am unable to advise you with regard to the merits of your case. In answer to your inquiry as to whether or not there is anything further that you can do or further letters which you can obtain, I would ask you to please bear with me until the records are received and I shall promptly advise you of any additional information that may be needed to assist me in the presentation of your case. Yours very truly, George J. Leger, Commander, USN

REED & BARTON GENERAL OFFICES AND WORKS . TAUNTON, MASSACHUSETTS March 19th, 1952 Admiral R. W. Bates Naval War College Newport, Rhode Island Dear Admiral Bates: This letter will advise you of the selections made for your gifts requested over the telephone yesterday afternoon. While we were talking, I was thinking of plated items and when I checked on your previous selections, I saw they had been sterling in every case. The Paul Revere bowls in sterling were out of line for price so I am enclosing photographs of the pieces selected and hope that you approve. The X242 compote will be sent to Miss Jean Hill at 150 West Evergreen Avenue in Philadelphia 18, Pennsylvania. This will be approximately \$17.50 plus tax and postage. The X345 bowl will be sent to Miss Bayne Easton at 316 Gibbs Avenue in Newport and will be approximately \$19.00 plus tax and postage. The X301 fruit dish will be sent to Mrs. Charles Chapel, Orchard Lane Farm, Church Road, Flourtown in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and will come to approximately \$28.00 plus the Federal Tax and postage. I hope that you are satisfied with the selections I have made. Sincerely, M. G. Rylands - Secretary MGR

March 21, 1952 Rear Admiral R.W. Bates, U.S.N. U.S. Naval War College Newport, Rhode Island Dear Admiral Bates: Just a line to say that at our last meeting--in December just before Christmas--you mentioned to me that Dean Lewis down in Newport had never come to one of our meetings. Furthermore, you said that you had mentioned them to him once or twice and that he had said that he knew nothing about them. It is true that he probably did not because I did not have him on our mailing list. He is on it now, and I have sent him a notice of the meeting to the Office of the Mayor, Newport, R.I. I hope that that is an adequate address and that he will get the notice. If you happen to have a chance and run across him anywhere, I would appreciate it if you would tell him that we have sent the notice to him there. We hope very much that you will get an opportunity to come up to the meeting. I am sure that you would enjoy it very much. Condit has an excellent story to tell and he tells it in a very engaging manner. He stood the Wardroom Club on their collective head when he told it to them at Christmas time. My wife and I are this minute en route to Sea Island, Georgia, for a two-week holiday with my family. We have lived for these days all through the winter. Hope to see you on the 11th of April--

MEMBERS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE SAN FRANCISCO STOCK EXCHANGE LOS ANGELES STOCK EXCHANGE NEW YORK CURB EXCHANGE (ASSOCIATE) PRIVATE WIRES War College Dear Dick:

SINCE 1858

SUTRO & CO. 407 MONTGOMERY STREET SAN FRANCISCO 4

April 2, 1952

VAN NUYS BUILDING LOS ANGELES 40 WALL STREET NEW YORK 246 SOUTH FIRST STREET SAN JOSE 275 NORTH CANON DRIVE BEVERLY HILLS

Admiral R. W. Bates Newport, Rhode Island

This is a very belated acknowledgment with thanks for the courtesies and favors extended to me when I saw you just prior to the holidays. It was indeed a real pleasure to visit with you and talk over old times and friends and to also learn of the interesting and important work you are doing for the Navy. I reflect with pleasant memory my visit with you to the Newport Reading Room - certainly a very interesting group of men. I still talk of and reflect back to the young rector of Trinity Church who reeks with personality and if I was ever intrigued to attend church services, it was to have heard him give his sermon.

I hope that your trip home was a pleasant one, and realize, of course, that your mother was not in the best of health, but that your visit with the rest of the family was ample compensation for your trip. Trust I will have the pleasure of seeing you when you reach these parts and certainly will be kept posted provided George Lowry knows of your being here; probably the three of us can get together for luncheon and dinner. With kindest regards, I am

Very truly yours,

WWG:ph

277 PARK AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

April 3, 1952

Dear Admiral Bates:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 1st, which arrived in the absence of Mr. Hugh Gibson.

If you will forward your stock certificate No. 3741 for five shares of preferred stock in The Divine Tragedy, Inc. to the above address we would appreciate it. It is not necessary for you to fill out the transfer form on the back of the certificate, as we shall cancel it immediately it is received.

Yours very sincerely,

Mang and En Housey

Secretary to Mr. Hugh Gibson

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, 12 Mt. Vernon St., Newport, R.I. Address reply to Commandant, First Naval District and refer to: JLM:SMN





4 April 1952

Dear Rafe:

We have your note about the non-fattening salad dressing. I am sorry that I am not able to give you the name of the brand in question. One day when in the midst of our strenuous Mayo diet, I noted in our favorite delicatessen store a bottle of salad oil, the label on which loudly proclaimed it was "non-fattening." As I recall, it was made some place in California. I bought it, used it and liked it. When I undertook to replenish the supply, I was told by the delicatessen shop that they had stopped stocking it.

In view of the foregoing, I don't know how I am going to be able to help Dick Conolly in his quest for a sylph-like figure. I am told, however, that a light grade of mineral oil can be used with success in compounding non-fattening dressing.

I am sorry I didn't get to see you in Newport. We were on the dead run and that is the way it worked out. Both Estelle and I hope that you will come up and spend a weekend with us just as soon as we get settled.

With all good wishes to Richard Conolly and yourself, I am

Yours sincerely,

John L. McCrea

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, USN (Ret.) U. S. Naval War College Newport, Rhode Island

0226

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED FORCES SOUTHERN EUROPE NAPLES, ITALY

8 April 1952

Commodore R.W. Bates, USN (Ret.) Naval War College Newport, R.I.

Dear Rafe:

Thank you very much for your very kind and informative letter of 28 March. I was very glad to hear your favorable comments about the War College and I was particularly pleased that you are getting an adequate number of officers for your vital analysis work.

When Admiral DuBose suggested that I might like to stay on another year in my present job I wrote back stating that I would like to do so, providing the Navy could employ me in Research and Education in the future. However, that appears to be beyond the scope of BuPers desires.

I expect to arrive in New York on the General Rose about 11 June and proceed to Schenectady to visit a grandchild whose advent is momentarily expected. I then go to New York June 20th for processing and as soon thereafter as possible join Isy in Newport. The Miller's will be leaving our house about 15 June. I propose to remain in Newport through the summer and fall while I make up my mind what I will do in the future.

I have two prospects for civilian employment in logistics research with outfits that are working for the Armed Forces.

I am a little tired working for other people and I would much prefer being completely on my own. In addition to that I have several articles and essays that are partially complete and I want to work on them for several months before submitting anything for publication.

This last year has been a very wonderful experience. There have been many exasperations, but there have been many fine rewards. On top of that I have become more convinced then ever of the necessity for rigorous analysis of the real problems of command. The political involvements of a senior NATO Commander are huge and require a tremendous amount of thought and energy. This means, that the staff officers can get very little personal contact and guidance from the top commander; this in turn means that they themselves must have a thorough understanding of the art and science of command. It goes back to the fundamentals that you and I have discussed and agreed upon so many times in the past.

A further problem arises in that a large staff has so many administrative problems that the Chief of Staff and Senier Deputies are very apt to find themselves "up to their hips in midgets". The legistics snowball grows tremendously in the support and administration of a big headquarters. Much of this is avoidable, but can be avoided only if there is scientific study of administration. I hope that someday we can learn enough about administration so that those problems do not rob the commander and his senier assistants of the time and effort they should spend on the problem of command in war.

Enough for today. I will be looking forward to seeing you this summer. Isy joins me in best regards, and thanks you for your very kind (and whelly justified) compliment.

Henry

Best of luck,

Staff, CINCLANTFLT Naval Base Norfolk 11, Virginia

11 April 1952

Dear Commodore Bates:

For about four years, I have held in my cabinet about 250 - 300 of the one-star place cards, sample enclosed. These place cards were turned over to me by Admiral Blandy's writer, who, I understand, had inherited them from Admiral Mitscher's writer.

If you so desire, I shall be glad to send them to you— rather than turn them over to my relief this June.

Very respectfully,

H. L. HARRISON, SCLK, U.S. Navy.

Commodore R. W. Bates, U.S.N. (Ret.) U.S. Naval War College Newport, Rhode Island

CORNELL UNIVERSITY ITHACA, NEW YORK Office of the President April 25, 1952 Commodore Richard W. Bates, U.S.N., Ret. Naval War College Newport, Rhode Island Dear Dicky: It was certainly great fun to cross your trail in the University Club and I am most grateful to you for remembering our brief conversation and for following it up with an invitation from you and one from Vice Admiral Conolly, President of the Naval War College, inviting me to the Global Strategy Discussions. I have been trying to see whether it was possible to get in any of the sessions at all because I realized right off that the major portion is out of the question because it is Commencement Week at Cornell. I have come to the conclusion that it just is impossible to get any of it in, and to be only a fragmentary attendant seemed worse than not coming at all. Unfortunately, our Commencement is on June 9; the Sloan-Kettering Institute, of which I am a director and which is a part of our Cornell Medical Center, has its annual conference on the tenth; the Medical College in New York City has its Commencement on the eleventh; and the School of Nursing's annual Alumni Luncheon is the twelfth. That leaves only the thirteenth free, and clearly that would be too late. I am sorry to have delayed so long replying, but I have just had trouble making up my mind to accept the inevitable. If there is any possibility of a rain check for another year, I do hope you will try again. Nothing would please me more and I know what a stimulating experience it is. Thanks so much for thinking of me. I am writing Vice-Admiral Conolly.

Commodore Richard W. Bates Page Two April 25, 1952 If you ever get a change to get off base and run up country, come to Ithaca. Eleanor and I would certainly welcome you at Cornell. Cordially, Deane W. Malott President DWM: alh P. S. I am particularly interested in this because I have made the Joint Orientation trip twice, gone to Hawaii on the Iowa with our Midshipmen, and am at present President of the Naval R.O.T.C. Colleges and Universities. I am just this side of a sailor!!!